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Idaho Red Meat Production Down 23 Percent From Last Year

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for June 2006 totaled 26.2 million pounds, down 23 percent from last year according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. June production was up 15 percent from the 22.7 million pounds produced in May. Accumulated red meat production for the January-June 2006 period totaled 147.6 million pounds, down 10.8 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.12 billion pounds in June, up 4 percent from the 3.96 billion pounds produced in June 2005. Beef production, at 2.43 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.16 million head, up 8 percent from June 2005. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds. Veal production totaled 13.0 million pounds, 1 percent below June a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 58,700 head, down slightly from June 2005. The average live weight was 4 pounds below last year, at 365 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.66 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.34 million head, 2 percent below June 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 268 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 14.6 million pounds, was down 5 percent from June 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 211,800 head, 4 percent below last year. The average live weight was 137 pounds, down 1 pound from June a year ago. January to June 2006 commercial red meat production was 23.3 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507.

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